

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 00860 171003Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----029028 171008Z /15

O 170857Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 452
SECDEF IMMEDIATE
JCS IMMEDIATE
CINCPAC IMMEDIATE
CINCPACAF IMMEDIATE
CINCPACFLT IMMEDIATE
CINCPACREPPHIL IMMEDIATE
13TH AF CLARK AB IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 860

EXDIS - MILITARY HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, RP
SUBJECT: BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: MANILA 859

1. REFTEL REPORTS PRESIDENT MARCOS DECISION HOLD ELECTIONS
FOR INTERIM PARLIMENT (BATASANG PAMBANSA) APRIL 2.
WHEN I SAW HIM JANUARY 17, I ASKED WHETHER IT WAS STILL HIS
INTENTION TO WIND UP BASE DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO ELECTION.

2. HE REPLIED THAT IT REMAINED HIS HOPE, BUT THAT, IF
PROGRESS ON DIFFICULT ISSUES CANNOT BE MADE, IT MIGHT BE
NECESSARY TO MAKE QTE INTERIM ANNOUNCEMENT UNQTE STATING WHAT
HAS BEEN ACHIEVED TO DATE. I SAID WE WERE PREPARING PROPOSED
EXCHANGE OF NOTES AND OTHER MATERIAL AGREED TO IN RECENT
DISCUSSIONS AND I HOPE HE WOULD NOT MAKE ANY DECISION
ON NECESSITY INTERIM RELEASE UNTIL HE HAD SEEN OUR
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PAGE 02 MANILA 00860 171003Z

PROPOSALS. HE SEEMED SATISFIED FOR THE PRESENT.

3. COMMENT: I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT MARCOS WILL KEEP HEAT
ON US BY RELATING DISCUSSIONS TO FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS.
I DID NOT WISH TO GIVE ANY HINT OF OUR ACQUIESCING IN
SUCH INTERIM STATEMENT AT THIS TIME, BUT, IF SUBJECT
ARISES AGAIN, I WOULD PROPOSE TO STATE THAT OUR CON-

CURRENCE ON AN INTERIM STATEMENT AND ITS WORDING WOULD
BE ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE TO AVOID COMPLICATIONS IN OUR
CONSULTATIONS WITH CONGRESS AND TO CONTINUE THE PRESENT
PROGRESS IN OUR DISCUSSIONS.
NEWSOM

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NNN

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Litigation Codes:
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